

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /084 W

----- 017845

R 151640Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0219

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, UK

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR'S DENIAL OF ANTI-JUDAIST
REMARKS

REF: STATE 81475

1. REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO GHORBAL (WHOSE NAME WAS
SPELLED GORBAL) APPEARED IN "LONDON LETTER" COLUMN OF
THE GUARDIAN APRIL 8 BY JOHN TORODE, WHOM USIS CONSIDERS
A GENERALLY RELIABLE REPORTER. SUBSEQUENT DENIAL BY
EGYPTIAN EMBASSY AND GRACEFUL EXPLANATION OF CIRCUM-
STANCES LEADING TO DECEPTION OF REPORTER WERE PRINTED
IN SAME COLUMN APRIL 10. EGYPTIAN EMBASSY CONSIDERS
MATTER CLOSED. THEY ARE SENDING US A COPY OF EGYPTIAN
AMBASSADOR SHAZLY'S LETTER WHICH CONTAINED THIS DENIAL,
WHICH WE SHALL FORWARD TO DEPARTMENT (NEA/EGY).

2. TEXT OF APRIL 8 ARTICLE AS FOLLOWS: "COD PEACE?
SOPHISTICATED ARAB SPOKESMEN GO OUT OF THEIR WAY THESE
DAYS TO STRESS THAT THEY ARE NOT ANTI-JEWISH--STILL LESS
DO THEY HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST JUDAISM, THAT VENERATED
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RELIGION WHICH PROVIDES ONE OF THE ROOTS OF ISLAM ITSELF.

"JEWS, LIKE CHRISTIANS, ARE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK,
AND AS SUCH SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONSIDERATION IN THE
MOSLEM WORLD. ALL THE ARABS OPPOSE IS THE WICKED ZIONIST
CONSPIRACY WHICH PROVIDES WORLDWIDE SUPPORT FOR THE IN-
DEPENDENT, THEOCRATIC STATE OF ISRAEL, ETC., ETC.

"SADLY, THESE SUBTLE DISTINCTIONS HAVE NOT YET
REACHED THAT HOME FROM HOME FOR NAZIS ON THE RUN:
ARGENTINA. FOR, TO THE AMAZEMENT OF OUR MAN IN BUENOS
AIRES, HIS LOCAL CURRENT AFFAIRS REVIEW MARCHOS RECENTLY
CARRIED A LONG ARTICLE CALLING FOR THE DESTRUCTION, NOT
OF ZIONISM, NOT EVEN OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, BUT OF THE
JEWISH RELIGION ITSELF. AND THE AUTHOR WAS NONE OTHER
THAN THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, ONE ASHRAF
GORBAL. THE ARTICLE GOES ON RATHER. BUT A COUPLE OF
EXTRACTS GIVE SOME IDEA OF THE GENERAL TONE.

"THE ARAB PEOPLE,' WRITES HIS EXCELLENCY, 'ARE
CONVINCED THAT THE EXTERMINATION OF JUDAISM IN THE MID-
DLE EAST IS THE POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR ANY PROCESS OF
THEIR LIBERATION.

"WHAT, IN TODAY'S WORLD IS CALLED 'THE OIL PROB-
LEM,' THAT IS THE PROBLEM OF THE PRICES WE DEMAND IN OR-
DER TO MAINTAIN OUR INDUSTRIES, IS NOTHING MORE THAN A
TACTICAL PROCEDURE IN THE WAR AGAINST JUDAISM IN ORDER TO
SHOW THEM THAT THE POSITIONS HAVE BEEN REVERSED AND THAT
THEY ARE NOW THE DEPENDENTS...WHAT REALLY EXISTS IS THE
(WESTERN) OBJECTIVE OF CONTINUOUSLY USING JUDAISM AS A
BRIDGEHEAD IN ORDER TO CONFRONT OUR INDEPENDENCE AND
GRANDEUR WHICH ARE NOT DIFFERENT FROM YOURS. THUS OUR
IRREVOCABLE DECISION IS TO DESTROY JUDAISM."

3. TEXT OF APRIL 10 ARTICLE AS FOLLOWS: "ROUGH RIDE.
YOU CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL IF YOU ARE WRITING ABOUT THE
MIDDLE EAST. ON TUESDAY WE RAN A PIECE 'QUOTING' THE

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R 151640Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0220

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES,ASHRAF GORBAL.
THE THEME OF THE AMBASSADOR'S LONG AND BITTERLY ANTI-
ISRAELI INTERVIEW TAKEN FROM THE SPANISH LANGUAGE,
ARGENTINIAN PUBLICATION MARCHOS, WAS THAT THE ARAB WORLD
WAS DEDICATED, NOT TO THE DESTRUCTION OF ZIONISM BUT TO
THE EXTERMINATION OF JUDAISM ITSELF.

"MY ISRAELI SOURCE FOR THE STORY WAS IMPECCABLE.
HE SENT ME A PHOTO COPY OF THE OFFENDING (AND OFFENSIVE)
ARTICLE ALONG WITH A DETAILED TRANSLATION FROM THE
SPANISH. BEING A SUSPICIOUS TYPE I HAD THE TRANSLATION
CHECKED AGAINST THE ORIGINAL TEXT AND IT TALLIED. SO WE
RAN THE STORY. BUT NOW AHMED ANIS, MINISTER COUNSELLOR
AT THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY HERE IN LONDON TELLS ME I WAS
TAKEN FOR A RIDE.

"WHAT HAPPENED WAS THIS: THE ARGENTINIAN AMBASSA-
DOR TO WASHINGTON APPROACHED ASHRAF GORBAL ON BEHALF OF
MARCHOS AND GORBAL DID INDEED MEET THE REPORTER FROM
MARCHOS. BUT, SADLY THERE WAS NO INTERVIEW DURING THE
BRIEF ENCOUNTER. ASHRAF GORBAL SPOKE NO SPANISH, THE RE-
PORTER HAD NO ENGLISH AND NO ARABIC. EVEN SO A THREE-PAGE
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'INTERVIEW' WITH ASHRAF GORBAL DULY APPEARED IN MARCHOS.

"GORBAL PUBLICLY DENIED THE QUOTES ATTRIBUTED TO
HIM ADDING: 'THIS IS ALL CONTRARY TO MY VIEWS AND MY
CONVICTIONS, AS WELL AS TO THOSE OF MY GOVERNMENT.' THE
ARGENTINIAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON SENT A WRITTEN
APOLOGY TO ASHRAF GORBAL FOR INTRODUCING HIM TO SUCH AN
IMAGINATIVE REPORTER. HEREWITH MY APOLOGIES TOO FOR
RUNNING A PIECE OF BLACK PROPAGANDA."

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Message Attributes

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